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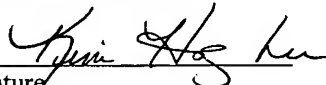
Docket No. 56029-53712

PATENT

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Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Curtiss III et al.

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: 29 August 2003

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

For: Regulated Bacterial Lysis for Gene
Vaccine Vector Delivery and Antigen
Release
Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This preliminary amendment amends the claims of the application as filed.

Claim Amendments

1. (original) A host-vector system, which comprises
 - a. A host chromosome comprising
 - i. An activatable control sequence, wherein the activatable control sequence is activatable by an inducer;
 - ii. a sequence that encodes a repressor, wherein the sequence is operably-linked to the activatable control sequence; and
 - iii. at least one essential gene, wherein the essential gene encodes a polypeptide that is necessary for synthesis of a rigid layer of a cell wall of a prokaryote, and wherein the essential gene is inactivated;